EXHIBIT A



10500 Seymour Avenue Franklin Park, IL 60131-1259

NEW CONCEPT DISCLOSURE

| | Project No.: | NP99145 | |
|---|--------------|---------|--|
| • | | | |
| | Case No.: | | |

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS CONFIDENTIAL AND
PROPRIETARY TO THE
SLOAN VALVE COMPANY.



SLOAN VALVE COMPANY

FRANKLIN PARK, ILLINOIS 60131

| Case N | lo.: | Date Receiv | ved: | | Receiv | ved By: Tel Johnling | |
|---------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------|-------------|----------------------------------------|--|
| | | | , | | | | |
| I. | Invention Title: Remote Rac | dio 2-way Com | municating Se | ensors And | Actuator | s For Control Of Water. | |
| | | | | | | | |
| II. Inv | entor (s) | | | | | | |
| Α. | Name: Jerome M. Gauthier | | Signature: | lesone | m. | Butten | |
| : | Street Address: 510 Glenmo | re Place | 0 | | | | |
| | City: Roselle | | | State | : IL | Zip: 60172 | |
| | Title: Engineer | | | Depa | artment: | Design Engineering | |
| | Supervisor: Peter Jahrling | | | L | | Date: | |
| | · | | | | | | |
| B. | Name: Nhon T. Vuong | - 1 | Signature: | Thon T | Vivor | —————————————————————————————————————— | |
| | Street Address: 2061 Queen | sbury Court | | | | | |
| | City: Lombard | | | State | : IL | Zip: 60148 | |
| | Title: Engineer | 75.0 | | Depa | artment: | Research And Development | |
| | Supervisor: Peter Jahrling | | | | | Date: | |
| | | | | | | | |
| C. | Name: | | 1, | Signature: | | 77 E | |
| | Street Address: | | | | | | |
| | City: | | | State | : | Zip: | |
| | Title: | | | Depa | Department: | | |
| | Supervisor: | | | | | Date: | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | DO NOT WRITE | BELOW | THIS LIN | NE (BOA | RD U | SE ONLY) | |
| | | | -4. | <u> </u> | | | |
| | Patent Review | Board Decision | on [| Accept | | Decline | |
| Comm | ents: | | | | | | |
| | <u> </u> | | | | | | |
| | | | , | | | | |
| | _ | | | | | | |
| Review | ved By: Cearles & | lee | | | Date | | |



III The objective of the invention.

- A. What does it accomplish?
- This invention removes the physical connection of a sensor to an actuator by such means as a piece of wire, common control board, etc.
- 2) This invention allows more freedom of placement of the sensor and actuator.
- 3) This invention allows for one or more sensors to request an activation of an actuator if desired.
- 4) This invention allows for one or more actuators to be activated by a sensor, if desired.
- 5) The sensor type is independent of the actuator type.
- 6) A mixture of sensor types can request an actuation from the same actuator.
- 7) Makes installation easier.
- 8) Built in acknowledgment of communication signal via indicator lamp.
- B. What is its purpose?
- 1) The purpose of this invention is to remove the physical connection of a sensor to an actuator, such as piece of wire, common control board, etc.
- 2) Another purpose of this invention is to allow more freedom of placement of the sensor and actuator.
- The indicator lamps will help with maintenance trouble shooting of the sensor and valve activators while in the field.

C. Why is it unique?

- 1) This invention is unique because there is no physical connection between the sensor and the actuator.
- 2) The communication between the sensor and actuator can occur through walls, without the need of cutting a hole in the wall.
- 3) The invention allows the actuator to be placed anywhere within communication distance of the sensor.



D. Circumstances which led to idea?

In the plumbing industry, valves must be close to the fixture so the user can actuate an activating mechanism, such as a push button or electronic device. In cases where a valve is placed behind a wall, a hole must be made in order to connect to the sensor element, push button or electronic device.



- IV. The objective of the invention.... What does it accomplish?
 - A. Sketch showing the concept:
 - 1) See attached document titled: 2-Way Wireless Radio Sensor, Radio Receiver For Water Control.

| Inventor: Jerome M. Buillier | Date ⁻ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Inventor: Whon T. Vuong | Date |
| Inventor: | Date: |
| Witnessed & Understood: Jakoba | Date: |
| Witnessed & Understood: | Date: |
| B. Attach photocopies of "original" sketches and/or description. Be sure significant witnesses are provided. | natures of inventor (s) and |

| Inv | vention status | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---------|---|
| Α. | Date invention was conceived: | | |
| B. | Date first sketch or drawing made: | 7 | |
| C. | Has it been constructed? | YES | |
| D. | Has it been tested? | YES | |
| E. | Has it been used experimentally? | NO | |
| F. | Has it been put into production? | NO | |
| G. | Has it been sold as a product? | NO | |
| Н. | Reference Sloan Project File Number | NP99145 | · |

Note: Attach photocopies of all supporting documents that would establish the above dates such as; invoices, memos, letters, drawings, test results, work orders, purchase orders, etc.

VI. List any anticipated problems

- 1) Cannot communicate through grounded ferrous metals.
 - a) Possible work around with radio repeaters.
- 2) Multiple sensors transmitting at the same may corrupt the radio signal.
- 3) Other radio sources may corrupt the radio signal.
- 4) Relatively short transmission and receive range limit.
 - a) Possible work around with radio repeaters.



VII. Why do you believe it is better than current device or process?

Explain:

- 1) This invention allows the valve to be placed independent of where the sensor is located.
- 2) Installation is made easier; no holes have to be punched through the wall.
- 3) The sensor can be placed as desired.
- 4) There is more flexibility with regard to sensor choices for a valve.

 You can mix and match a sensor type to a valve actuator.
- 5) This invention incorporates diagnostic and conformation of the signal being received by the actuator via the indicator lamp on the sensor.

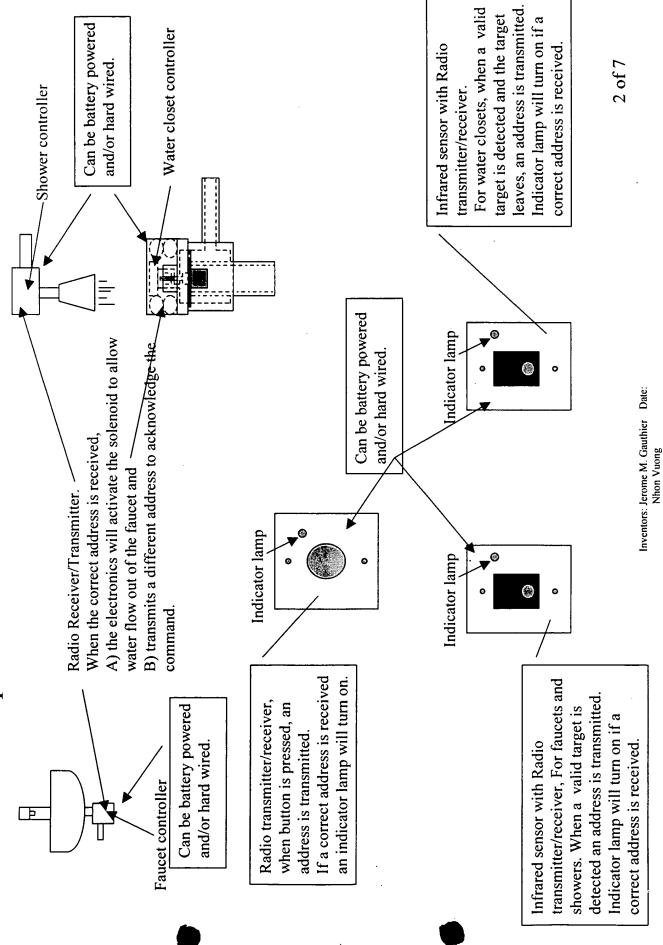
VIII. Provide any information available on similar devices or processes (prior art).

$\begin{array}{c} 1 \text{ of 7} \\ \text{Written By: Jerome M. Gauthier} \end{array}$

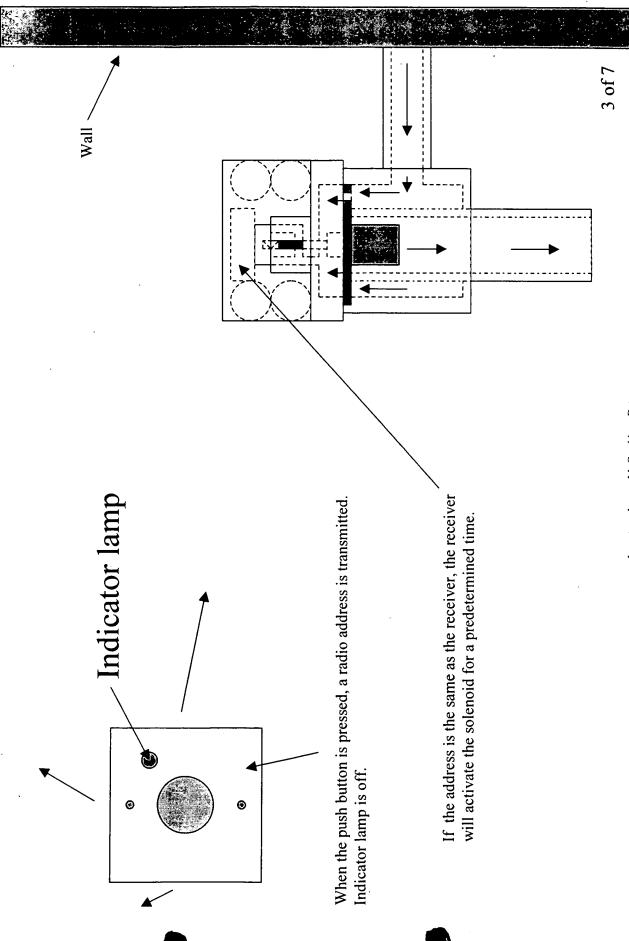
Radio sensor, Radio Receiver For Water Control 2-Way Wireless

Date

Components to be used:

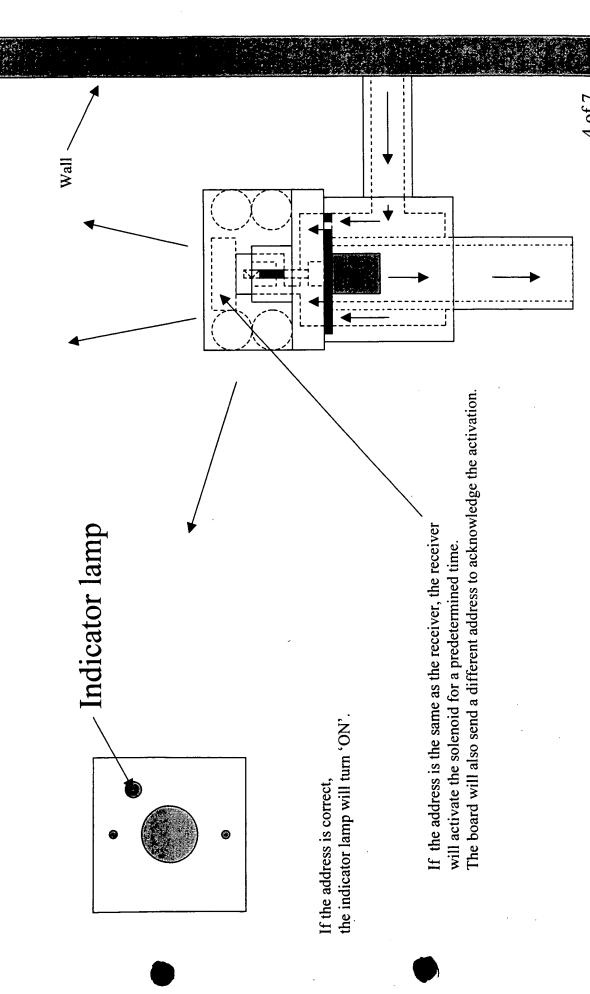


Exposed flush valve an remote push button.



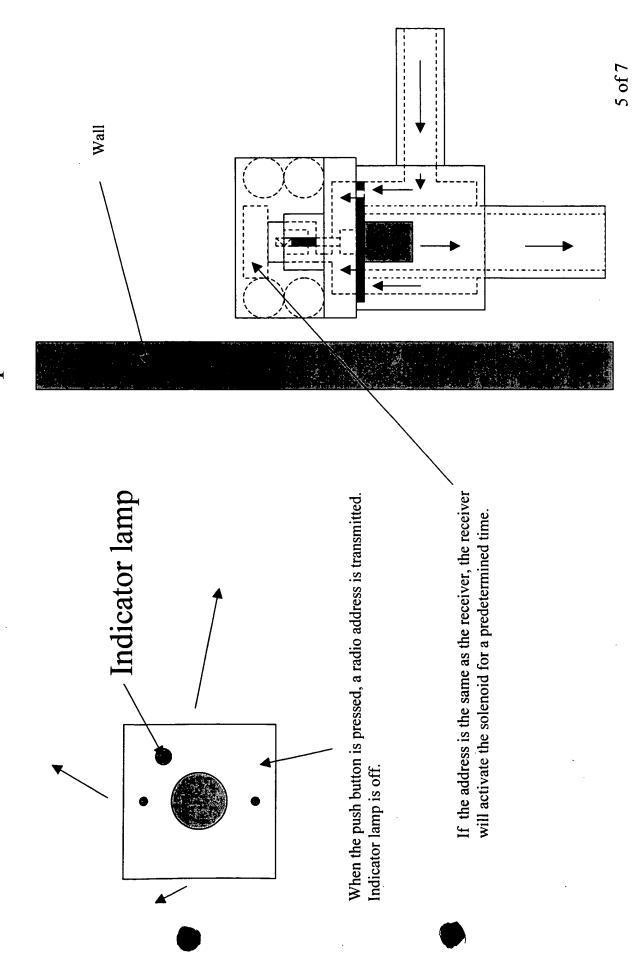
Inventors: Jerome M. Gauthier Date: Nhon Vuong

Exposed flush valve an remote push button.



Inventors: Jerome M. Gauthier Date: Nhon Vuong

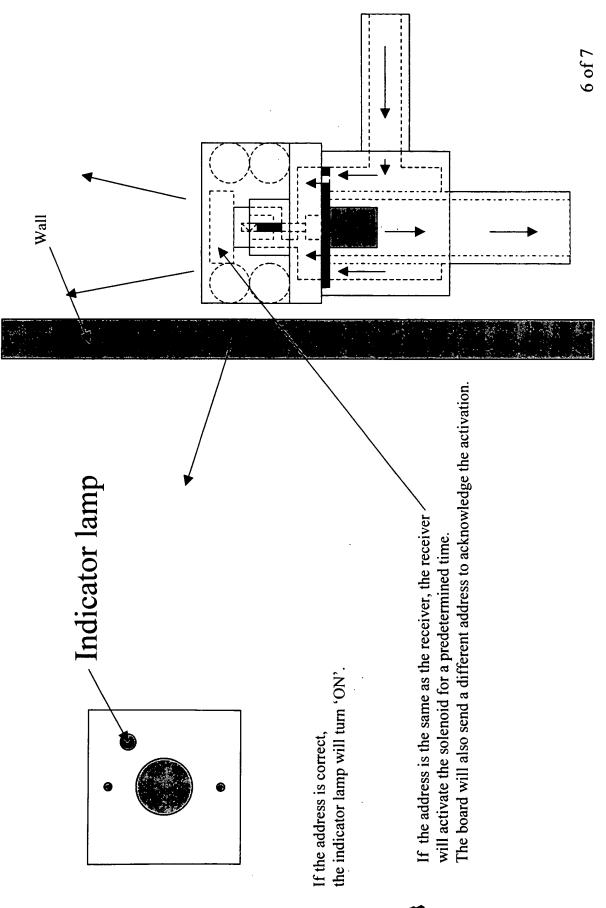
Concealed flush valve an remote push button.



Inventors: Jerome M. Gauthier Date: Nhon Vuong

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Concealed flush valve an remote push button.



Inventors: Jerome M. Gauthier Date: Nhon Vuong

Nhon Vuong

